

perhaps saw, at least she describes
picturesquely
the contrast of the Gallicised Normans
whom
Bohernund led forward and the English
and Scan-
dinavian Varangers—oriundi ex Thule
insula—who
faced one another in the decisive
combats of mail-
clad horse and axe-wielding foot such
as had been
seen at Hastings, The Normans are
seen arrayed
in the arms with which they conquered
England
and Apulia, the horse, the lance, the
hauberk of
woven rings able to withstand the
shower of arrows
and casting spears, the kite-shaped
shield with its
rounded top and brazen boss, As she
gives the
best personal picture of Guiscard, so
she describes
at length the impression made by his
son when
Bohemund entered the presence of
Alexius at
Deapolis, the stir in the court, the
contrast which
she admits between the tall Norman
and her own
father, who "had no dignity except
when he was
on his throne,"¹

He was such a man as, to put it in a few
words, the
Roman Empire never BB.W the like of at
that time,
either Greek or barbarian. For he was a
wonderful
sight to behold, and his fame excelled
that of all
others.

He was so tall in stature that he stood
above the
tallest men by nearly a cubit; he was thin

in loin and
flank; broad-shouldered and full-
chested, muscular
in every limb, and neither lean nor
corpulent, but
excellently proportioned and formed so
to speak by

¹ *Ibid.*, vol. ii., p. 224, *Script. Byz. Hist.* (Bonn),